

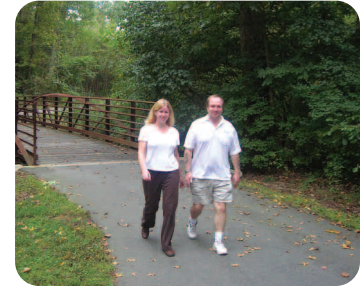
Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation 10 YEAR MASTER PLAN

GREENWAY ACTION PLAN

Master Plan Envisions 42 Miles of New Greenways Developed in Mecklenburg Over Next 5 Years

The citizens survey in the Master Plan identified walking and biking trails as the top recreational need named by Mecklenburg residents. The Master Plan's Needs Assessment takes this and other factors into consideration. And it still reflects this need as the top priority for development.

Greenways are a major piece of how the Master Plan proposes to address the need. Greenway trails bring close into neighborhoods the opportunity for walking, jogging, running, biking, skating and walking-the-dog. Greenway trails and their natural areas provide the chance "closest to home" for both active recreation and communing with the environment.



The Master Plan recommends developing more than 42 miles of new greenways in the next five years. These are in addition to 24 miles of greenways that exist today. The cost of expanding the system is estimated at \$46.8 million. Also in the next five years, 22 projects are recommended to improve existing greenways. These include bridges, restrooms, gardens and other amenities. The cost of improvements is estimated at \$5.2 million.

The methodology for choosing where greenways will be built involves a ranking system that includes many factors:

- Available land
- No significant barrier to construction
- Developed miles per park region (for distribution around the county)
- Project partnerships
- Funding partnerships
- Located in a surrounding town
- Listed in other plans or studies (such as part of Carolinas Thread Trail, etc.)
- Connectivity to schools, parks, existing greenways, universities, etc.

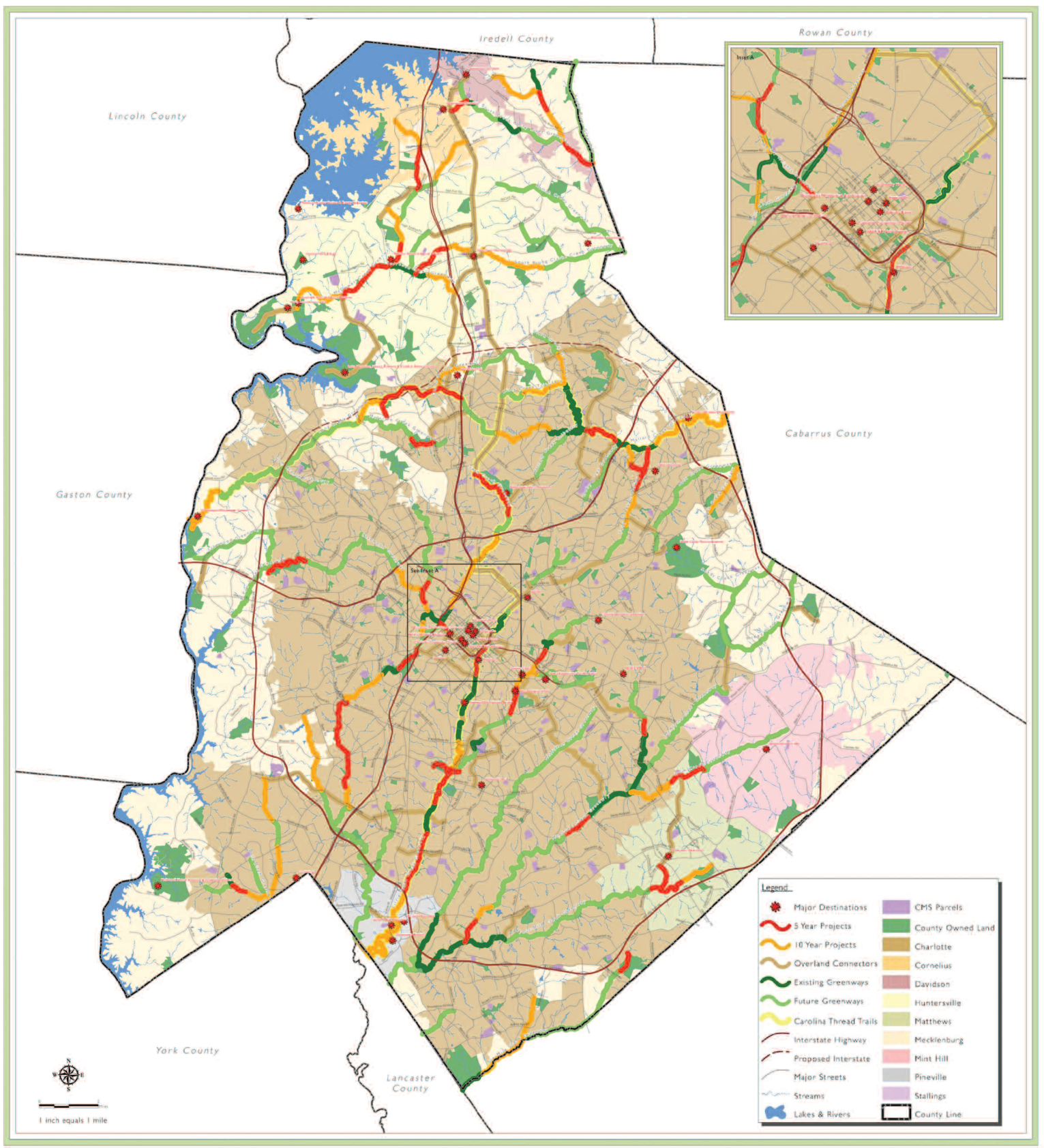
The emphasis in this Five Year Action Plan is to build greenways on land the County owns or that is easily available. Greenway sections will be linked as needed by sidewalks and bike lanes along streets. Where possible, loop routes will be designed by linking greenways and sidewalks to create easy exercise routes. The map at the end of this summary illustrates the Five Year Greenway Action Plan. This map and others are included in the Master Plan disc.

The Master Plan also has a 10 Year Greenway Action Plan. It includes land acquisition and completion of major greenway systems such as Little Sugar Creek Greenway and Mallard Creek Greenway. The plan also envisions major trails connecting to regional greenway systems such as the Carolina Thread Trail.

In 10 years, the Master Plan contemplates a total of 129 miles of developed greenways across the County. That is five times what we have now! A map illustrating the 10 year plan is in the Master Plan computer disc.

The map on the next page shows the Five Year Greenway Action Plan.





Greenway Master Plan (Priority Map)

Mecklenburg County, North Carolina



Disclaimer: This map is intended to provide a general overview of the information and is not intended to be used for legal purposes. The map is not a guarantee of any specific information and is not intended to be used for legal purposes. The map is not a guarantee of any specific information and is not intended to be used for legal purposes.

Updated: March 27, 2018 1:28 PM
G:\GIS\GIS\2018\MapDocs\Greenway_Master_Plan.docx